REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the previous amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 11-16 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 3-6, 9 and 10 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 are amended, and new claims 11-16 are added.   No new matter has been added by any of the amendments.

The Office Action objects to Figs. 5 and 12. Figs. 5 and 12 are replaced with new Figs. 5 and 12 to address the Office Action's objection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2003/0113027 to Chan et al. in view of JP 2002-251352 to Yoko et al. and claims 3-6, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Chan in view of JP 2000-251061 to Yukihiro et al. The rejection of claims 3-6, 9 and 10 is moot. The remaining rejections are respectfully traversed.

Chan discloses a method of reconstructing an image which includes constructing a codestream. Following the writing of the codestream, additional metadata, such as XML metadata describing the image content, is written as a final step. See Chan at paragraphs [0170], [0192], [0193] and Figs. 9, 10, 13 and 18.

The coding apparatus of claim 1 and the coding method of claim 7 differ in fundamental respects relative to the disclosure in Chan. The coding apparatus of amended claim 1 comprises an XML box adder which positions an XML box, that has stored XML data produced by an XML data producer into a bit stream constructing a JPEG2000 file, in back of data corresponding to a predetermined resolution and in front of data corresponding to a higher resolution than the predetermined resolution. In Chan, all header boxes that may optionally be included

as part of a JPX file and do not influence the reconstruction of the image data, for example, metadata in XML boxes, are included <u>after</u> the contiguous code stream box. The XML box is placed at the end of the file regardless of the previous box's level of wavelength decomposition and there is no disclosure of storing the XML box in front of data of higher resolution than the predetermined resolution. Chan discloses that the XML boxes are merely included at the end of the file. Therefore, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the disclosure in Chan.

Similarly, claim 7 is amended to make this distinction more clear. It is thus respectfully submitted that claim 7 is also patentably distinguishable over the disclosure in Chan.

With respect to dependent claim 2, Chan does not disclose a reader which reads an XML box added into a bit stream of a JPEG2000 file in the middle of JPEG2000 decoding executed by the JPEG2000 decoder and an XML data processor which, when the XML box has been read by the reader, processes the XML data stored in the XML box to acquire a text data as in dependent claim 2.

In a non-limiting example described in Applicants' specification at page 12, beginning at paragraph [0045], when data is received, the data is automatically decoded in order of precedence. A selecting screen includes a message "READ XML DATA?" If "yes" is selected, then the user may further select "DISPLAY TEXT DATA." If "DISPLAY TEXT DATA" is selected, text data produced by converting the read-in XML data is displayed as well as a low resolution image. Thus, readability of a character in a character area included in original image data can be obtained at a relatively early stage of receiving the coded data of the JPEG2000 file by reading the XML data stored in the XML box.

In Chan, the XML box is included at the end of the file. Thus, even if one were motivated to include the feature of optionally extracting and processing the XML, as asserted in paragraph 9 of the Office Action, Chan does not disclose reading an XML box in the middle of JPEG 2000 decoding. The XML box in Chan could only be read at the end of JPEG2000 decoding. Similarly, with respect to dependent claim 8, Chan does not disclose or suggest reading an XML box added into a bit stream of a JPEG2000 file in the middle of JPEG2000 decoding. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2 and 8 are patentably distinguished over Chan.

Yoko does not overcome the deficiencies of Chan discussed above.

The remaining dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above as well as for the individual features they recite. For example, new claim 11 recites a display for displaying the text data acquired by said XML data processor in the middle of JPEG2000 decoding executed by the JPEG2000 decoder. New claims 12 and 13 recite a selector configured to allow a user to select whether to read an XML data stored in an XML box added into a bit stream of JPEG2000 file in the middle of JPEG2000 decoding executed by the JPEG2000 decoder; wherein, when the choice to read the XML data is selected through the selector, the XML data is to be read by the reader. These features are not disclosed by Chan.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Examiner is respectfully urged to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding objections and rejections.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this response, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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